



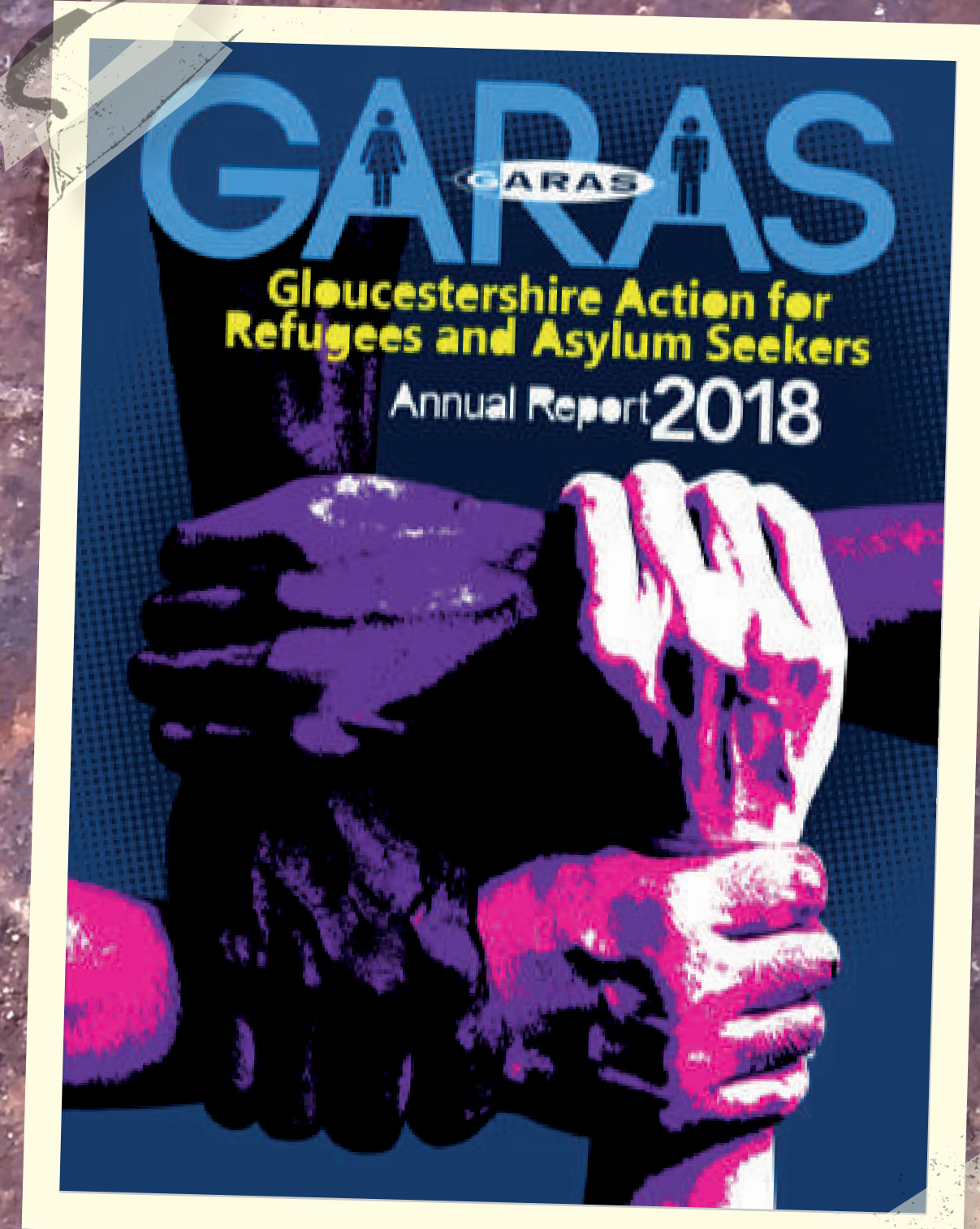
THE WORLD ON YOUR DOORSTEP



REFUGEES are people who cannot return to their country of origin because of a well-founded fear of persecution, conflict, violence, or other circumstances that have seriously disturbed public order, and who, as a result, require international protection.

The tendency to conflate refugees and migrants, or to refer to refugees as a subcategory of migrants can have serious consequences for the lives and safety of people fleeing persecution or conflict.

Without question, all people who move between countries deserve full respect for their human rights and dignity. However, refugees are a specifically defined and protected group in international law because the situation in their country of origin makes it impossible for them to go home. Calling them by their name can put their lives in jeopardy. UNHCR



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FIVE REASONS PEOPLE BECOME REFUGEES:

PERSECUTION Religious | National | Social | Racial | Political
WAR
GENDER/SEXUAL ORIENTATION
HUNGER
CLIMATE CHANGE

DIFFICULTIES FACED BY REFUGEES:

Asylum seekers and refugees –

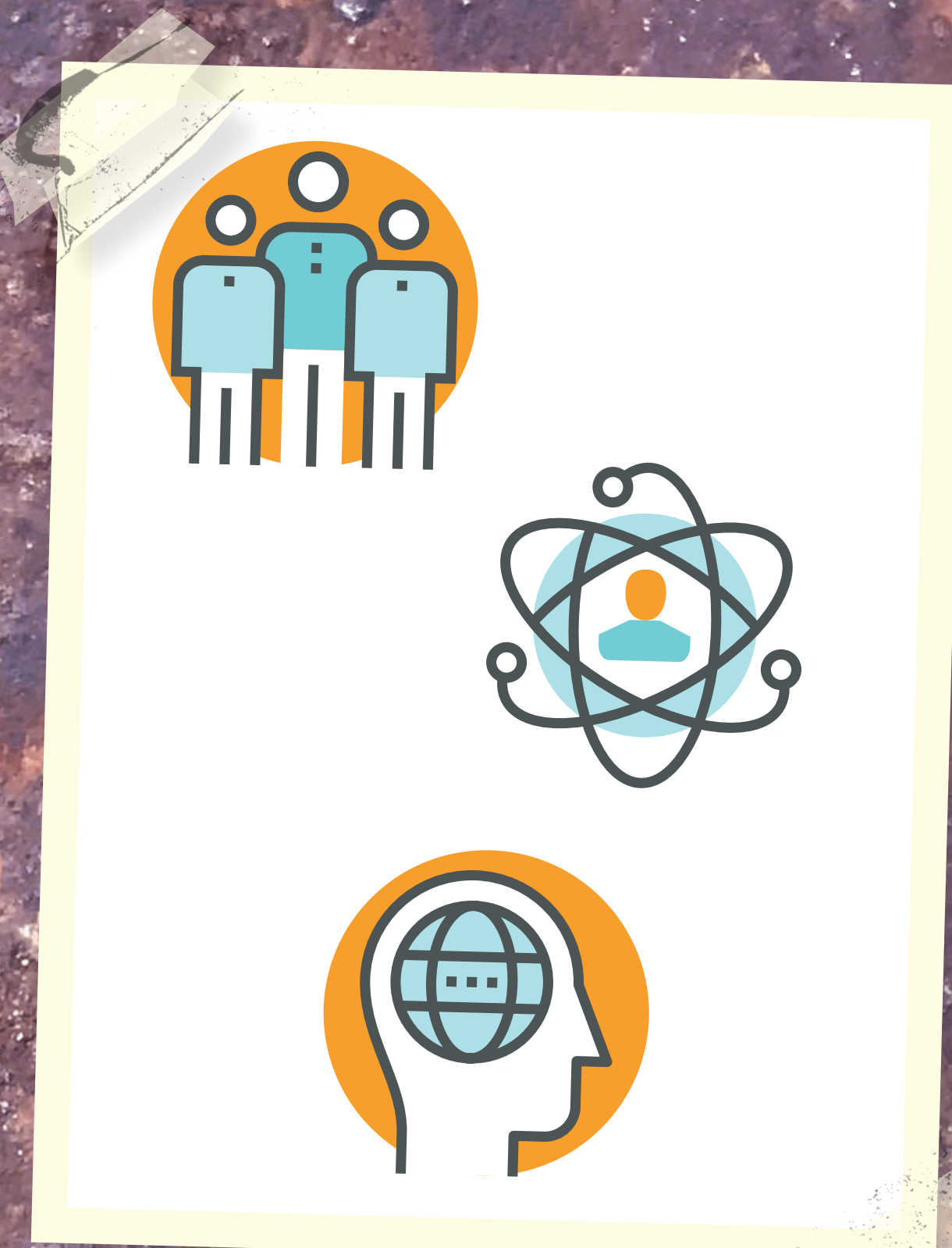
- do not get large handouts
- are law-abiding citizens

Refugees make a huge contribution to the UK

Britain's asylum system is very tough

Poor countries look after most of the world's refugees

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COMPARATIVE COSTS:

About 1200 medically qualified refugees are recorded on the British Medical Association's database. It is estimated that it costs around £25,000 to support a refugee doctor to practise in the UK. By comparison, training a new doctor is estimated to cost between £200-250,000.

Children in the UK asylum system contribute very positively to schools across the country. This in turn enables more successful integration of families in to local communities.

The UK asylum system is strictly controlled and complex. It is very difficult to get asylum. The decision-making process is extremely tough and many people's claims are rejected.

Asylum seekers do not come to the UK to claim benefits. Most know nothing about welfare benefits before they arrive and had no expectation that they would receive financial support.

Almost all asylum seekers are not allowed to work and are forced to rely on state support -this can be as little as £5 /day to live on.